A Booke of Curious and strange

Inuentions, called the first part of Needleworkes,

containing many singuler and fine sortes of Cut-workes, Raisde-workes, Stiches, and open Cutworke, verie easie to be learned by the dilligent practisers, that shall follow the direction herein contained.

Newlie augmented.

First Imprinted in *Venice*, and now againe newly printed in more exquisite sort for the profit and delight of the Gentlewomen of England.

For William Barley. 1596.

A Booke of Curious and strange

Inventions called the first part of New Workes,

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First Imprinted in Venice, and now againe newly printed in more exquisite sort for the pro-
fit and delight of the Gentlewomen of England.

For William Barley. 1596.

To the Right Honourable and ver

tuous good Ladie *Isabell Dowager* of *Rutland* all health and happines *with increase of Honourable dignitie.*

NDerstanding Right Honourable and most vertuous Lady the singular vertue vvherevvith God hath graced you, and therevvithall the excellent knovvledge you haue in Needlevvorkes, hauing at this present a a Booke to come foorth, importing the singularity of the same Arte, I could not be persvvaded of a more sufficient Patroneſſe than your Honour, vvhole excellent skill in curious Needlevvorks is made knovvne by many other personages, & seeing it is a thing not only requisite but also in great request among the gentry of our land, I am bold to shroud the same vnder your honorable protection, hoping your Ladyſhip vvill esteeme thereof (if not for the vvorthines, yet for the good vvill of him that presents it) vvhich at his great cost and charges hath caused it to bee publiſhed for the benifit of his countrie & increase of the vvell disposed in the same Arte, being the only ornament in a vvomā, vvherfore if i shal perceue the same accepted of your Honor, I haue the end of my desire, & vvill set out the second parte vvith as much expeditiō as may be, resting at your Ladyſhips direction to do you al the seruice I may, vvith hartie praier vnto God for the continuance of your Honorable and happie estate.

Your Honours most humble to command: *William Barley.*

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Vnderstanding Right Honourable and most vertuous Lady the singuler vertue wherewith God hath graced you, and therewithall the excellent knowledge you haue in Needleworkes, hauing at this present a Booke to come forth, importing the singularity of the same Arte, I could not be perswaded of a more sufficient Patronesse than your Honour, vnto whose excellent skill in curious Needleworke is made knowne by many other personages, & seeing it is a thing not only requisite but also in great request among the gentry of our land, I am bold to shroud the same vnder your honorable protection, hoping your Ladyship will effecte therof (if not for the vvorthines, yet for the good vvill of him that presents it) vvhich at his great cost and charges hath caused it to bee published for the benifit of his countrie & profite of the vvell disposed in the same Arte, being the only ornament in a vvoman before it I shal perceue the same accepted of your Honor, I haue the end of my desire & vvill for our the second parte vvith as much expeditiō as may be, resting at your Ladyships direction to do your al the seruice I may, vvith harty praier vnto God for the continuance of your Honorable and happie estate.

Your Honours most humble to command: William Tarlry.

THE wit of man by diuers thinges is tride,
Some for the soule do bend their study still:
Some on the seaes do search the world so wide,
In Alcomie some other tries their skill:
Some other loue the liberall Arts to learne,
The ground of knowledge therby to decearne.

But farre vnfit for tender women kinde,
Such toylesome studies altogether be:
Although their wits most sharp & swift we finde,
Yet with their strength these things do not agree:
Their milke white hands the needle finer fits,
With silke & gold to proue their pregnant wits,

In needle works there doth great knowledg rest.
A fine conceit thereby full soone is showne:
A drowsie braine this skill cannot digest,
Paines spent on such, in vaine awaie is throne:
They must be carefull. diligent and wise,
In needle workes that beare away the prise.

This worke beseemth Queenes of great renowne,
And Noble Ladies of a high degree:
Yet not exempt for maids of any Towne,
For all may learne that thereto willing be:
Come then sweet gyrles and hereby learne the way
With good report to liue another day.

For many maidens but of base degree,
By their fine knowledge in this curious thing:
With Noble Ladies oft companions be,
Sometimes they teach the daughter of a King:
Thus by their knowledge, fame, and good report
They are esteemd among the noblest sort.

Then prettie maidens view this prettie booke,
Marke well the works that you therein doe finde
Sitting at worke cast not aside your looke,
They profit small that haue a gazing minde:
Keepe cleane your Samplers, sleepe not as you sit,
For sluggishnes doth spoile the rarest wit.

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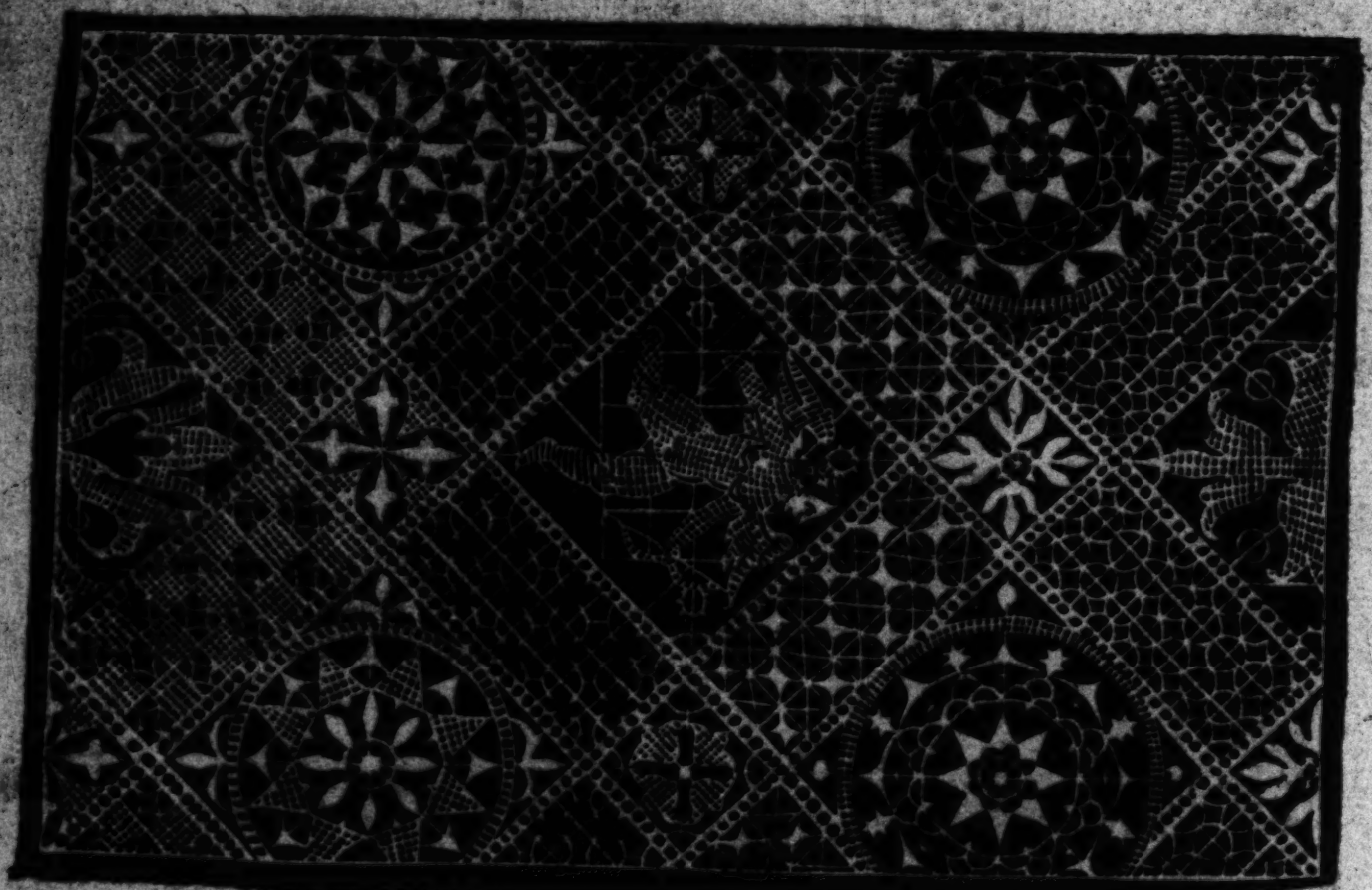

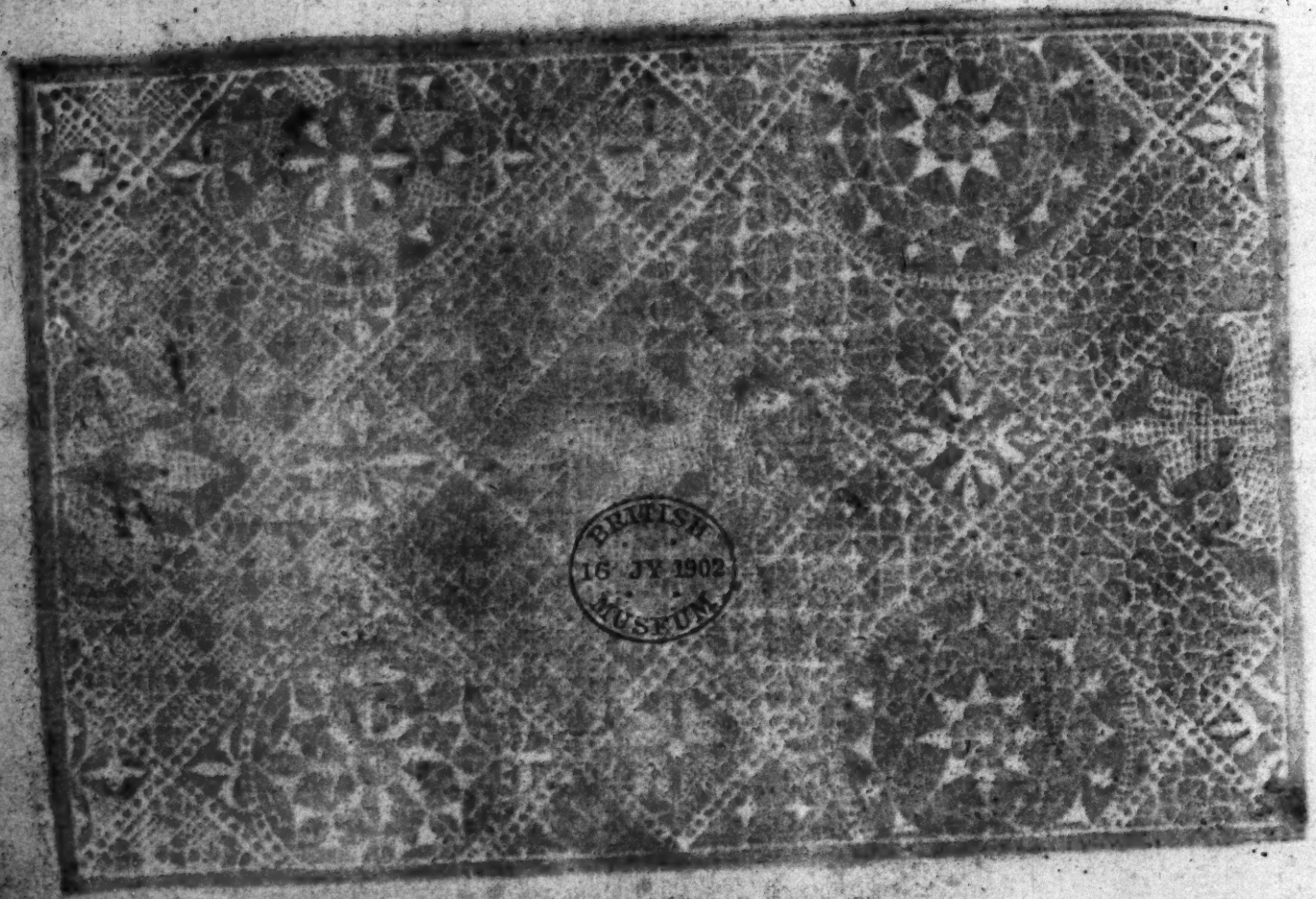

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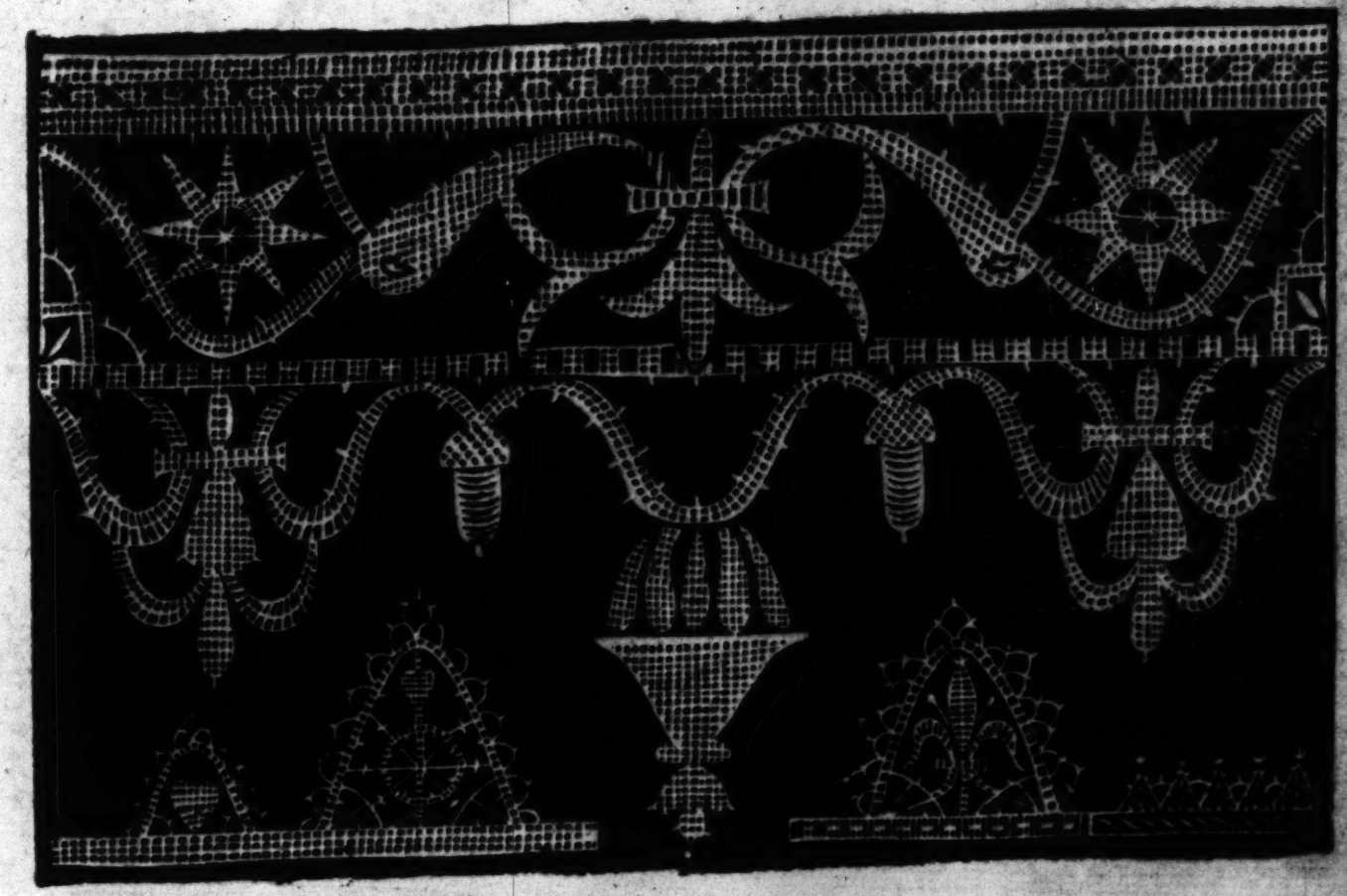

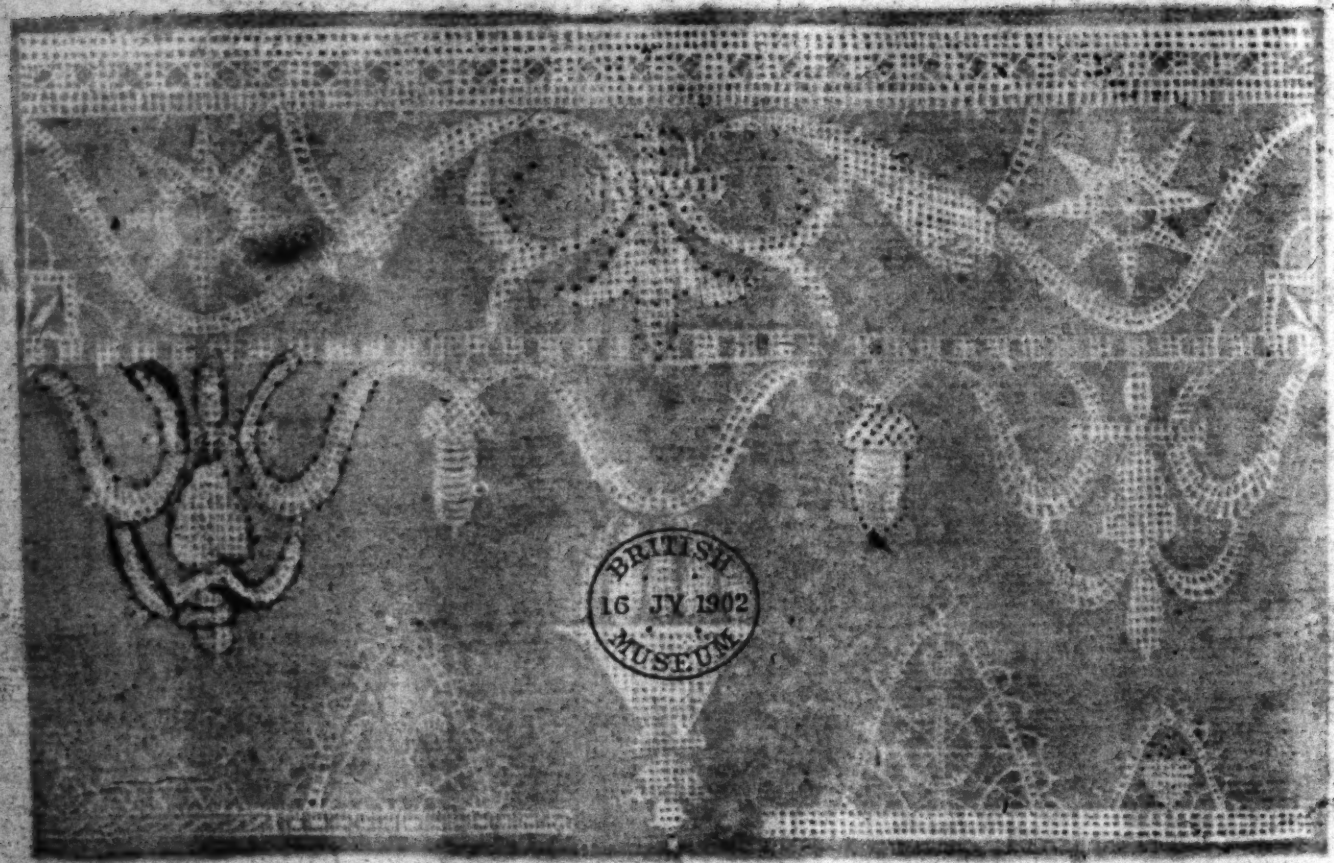
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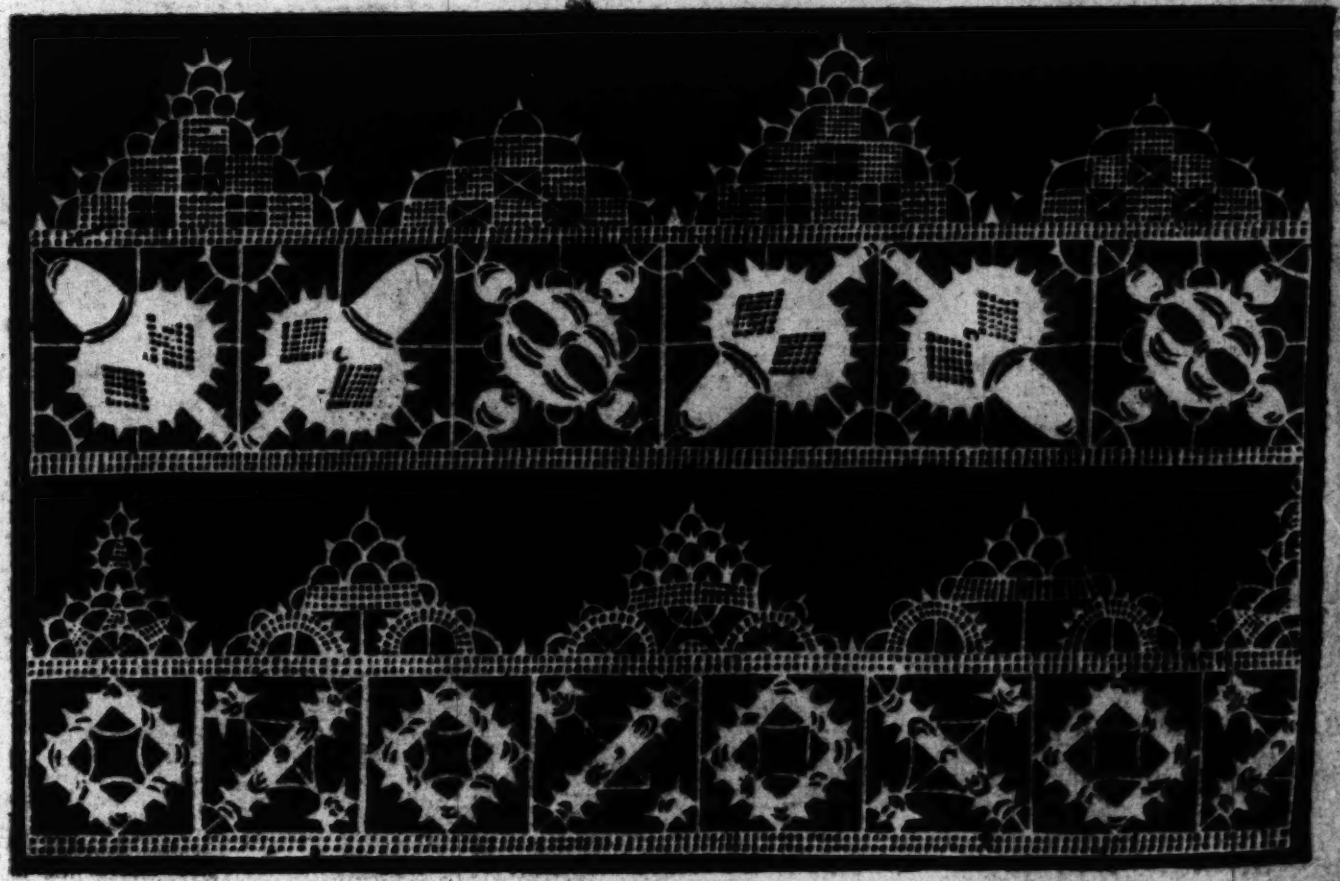

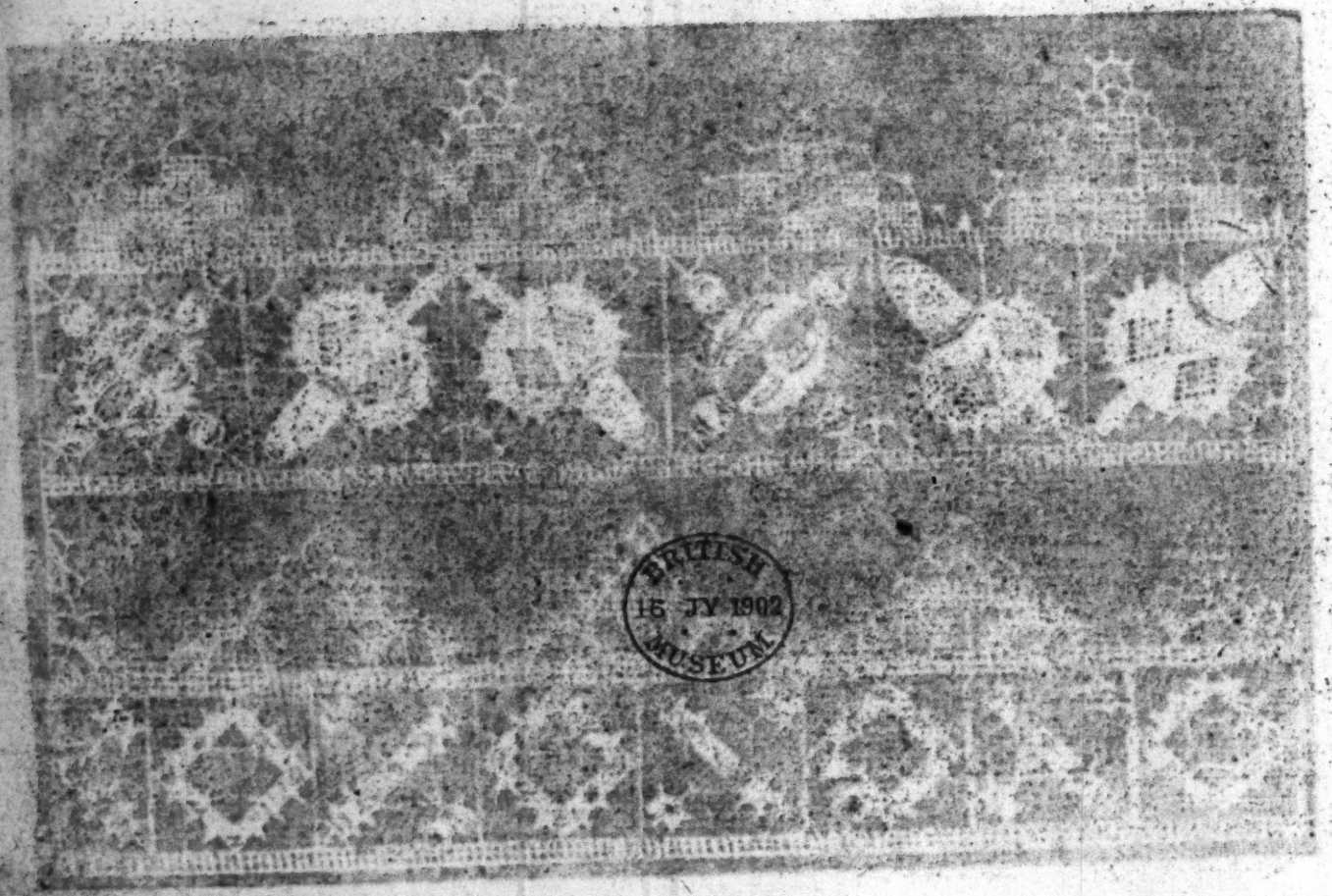
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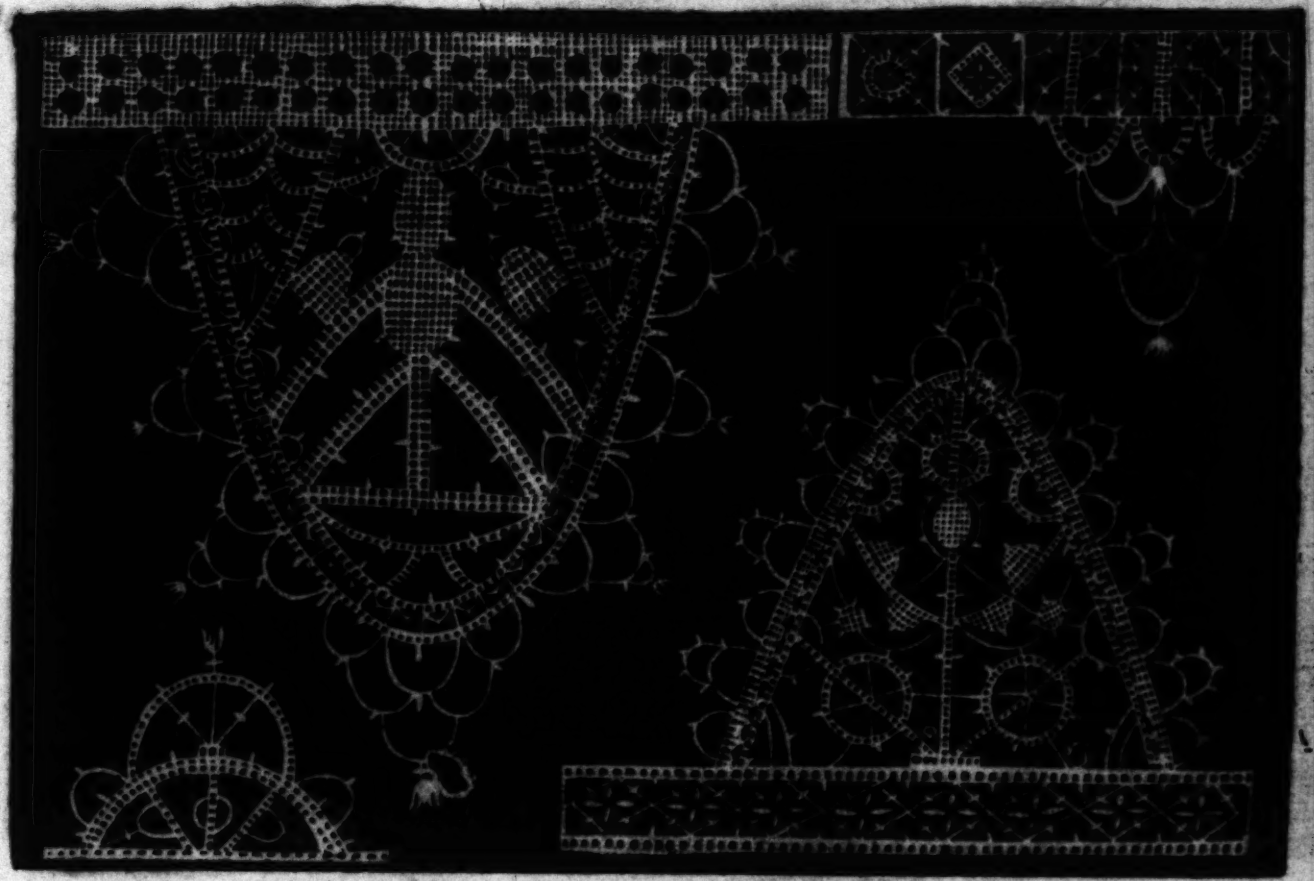

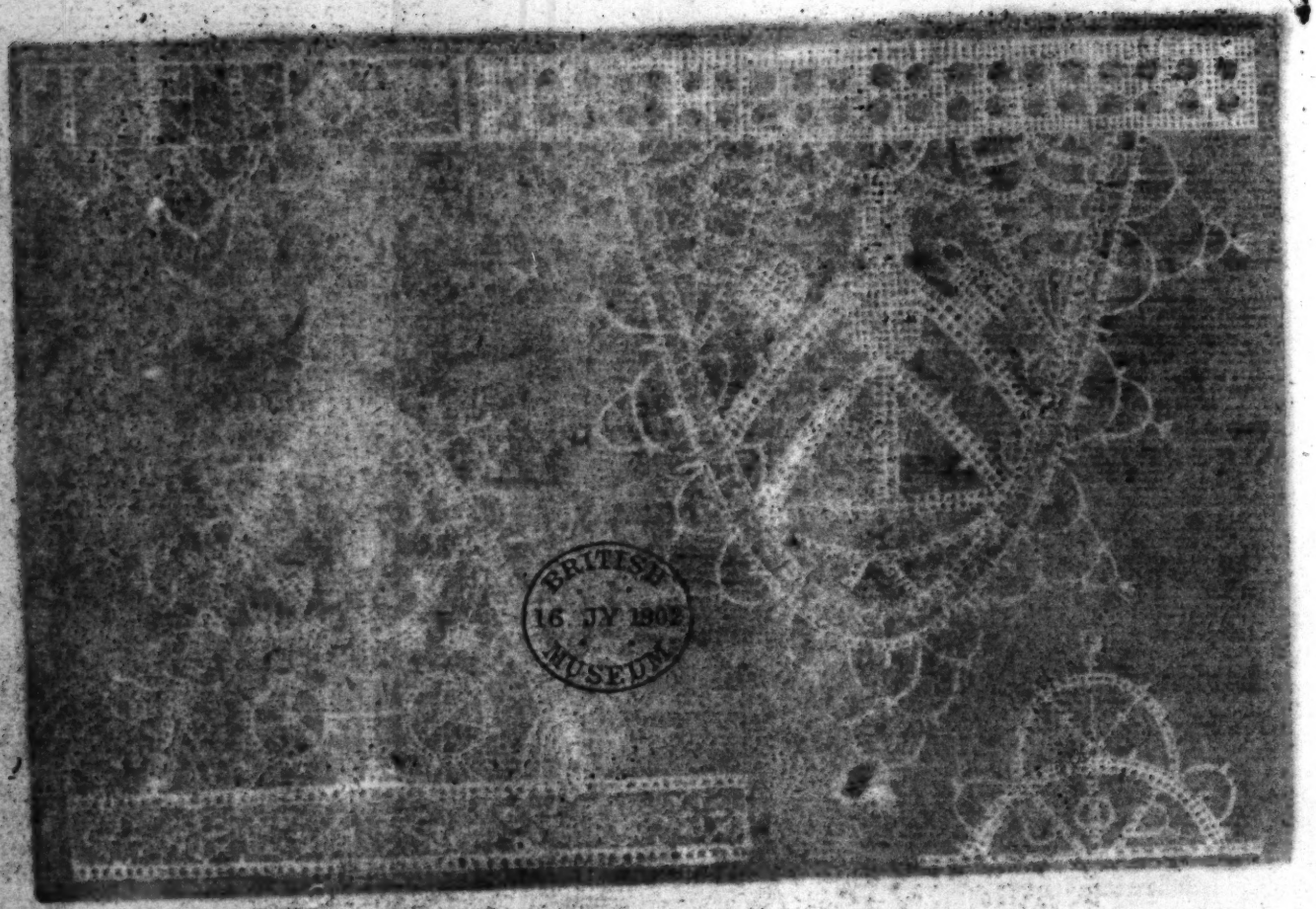
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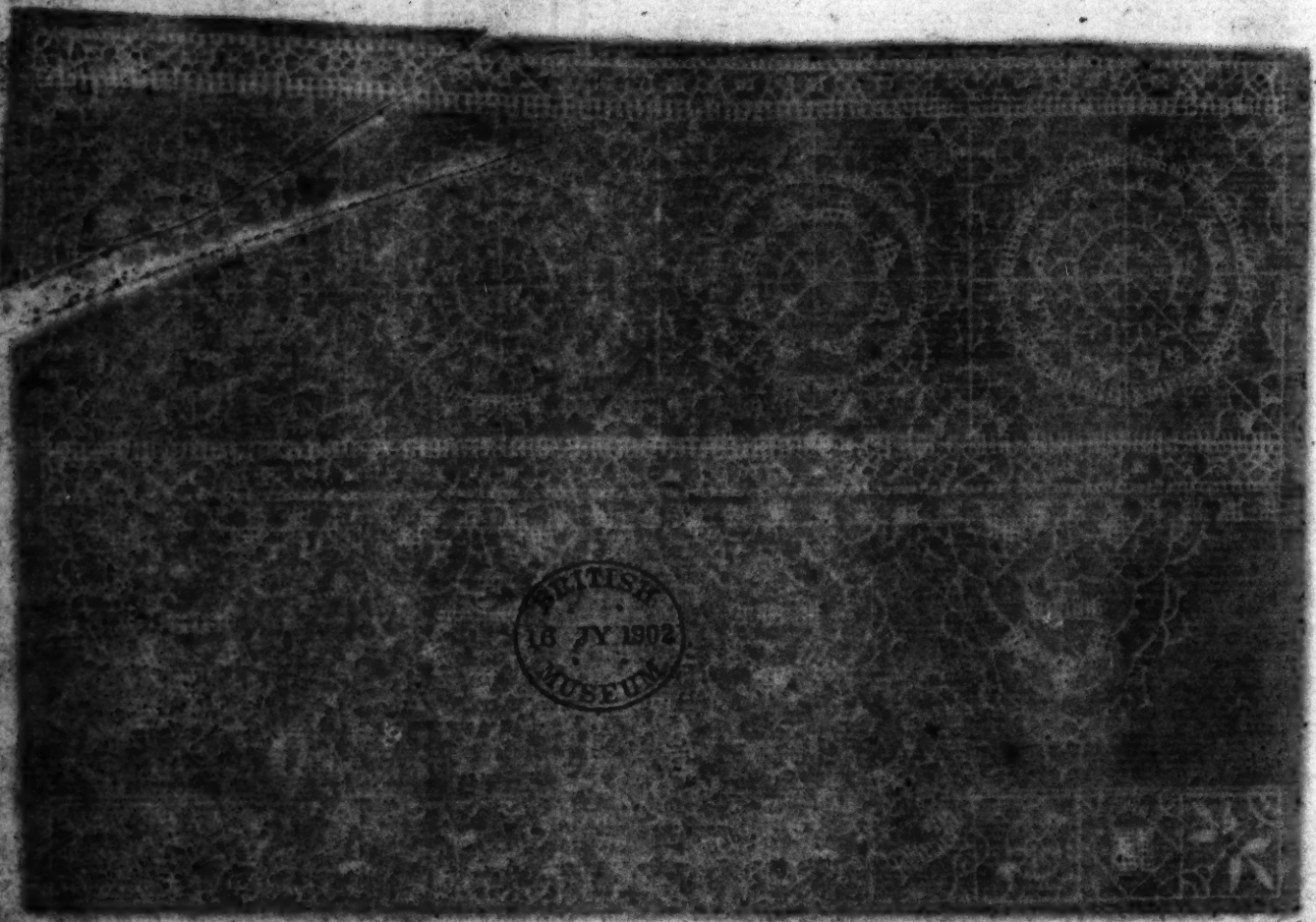
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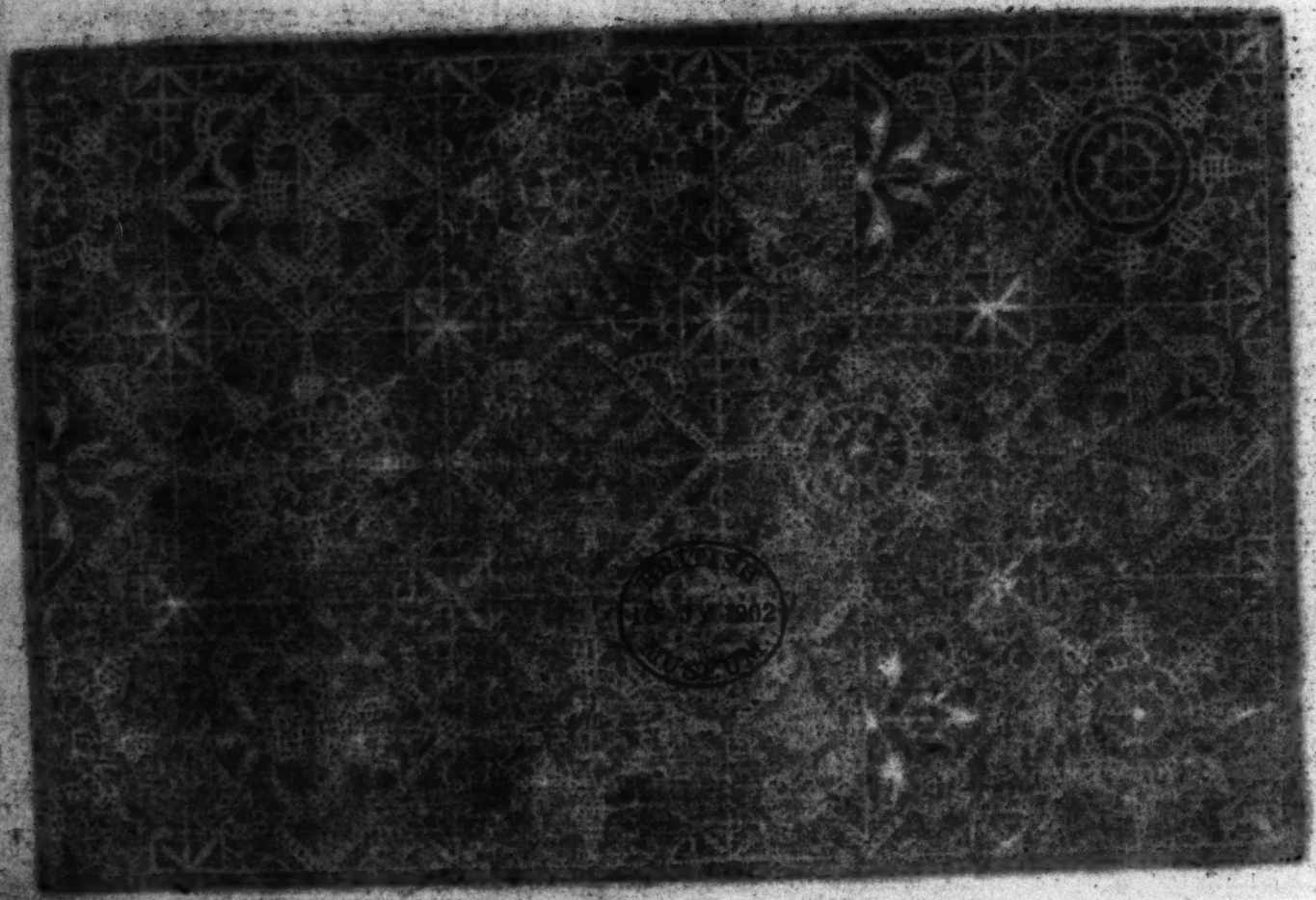

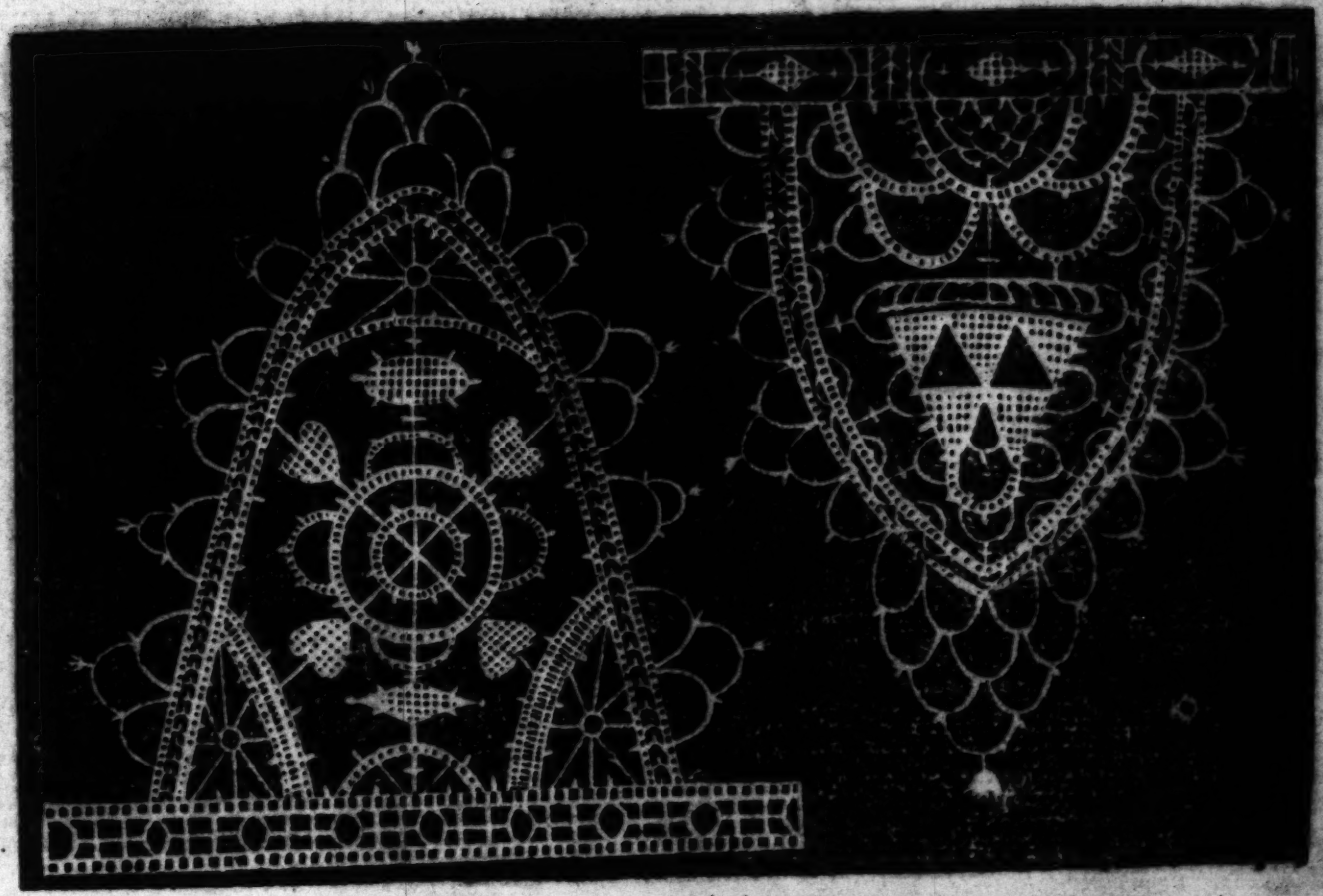

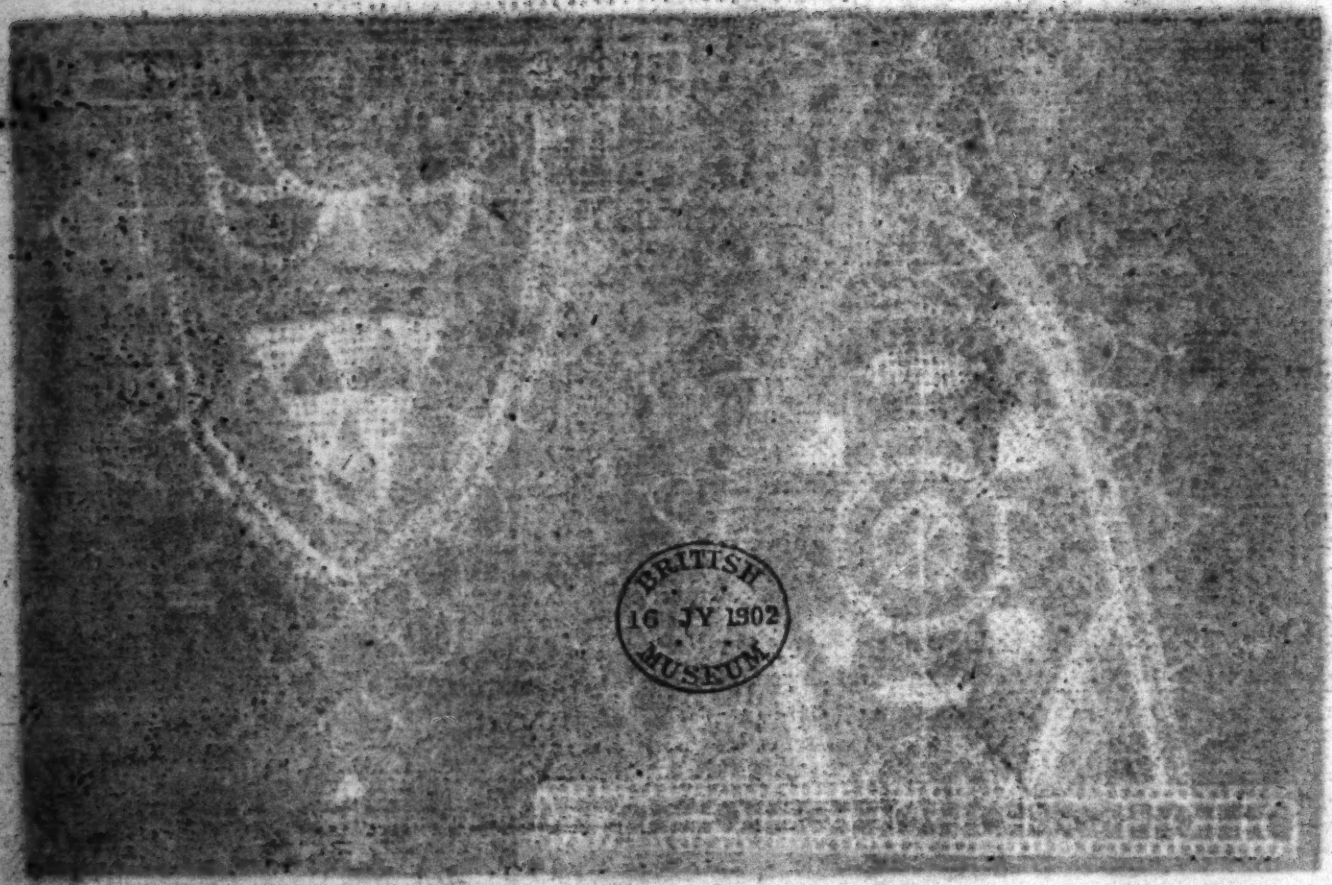
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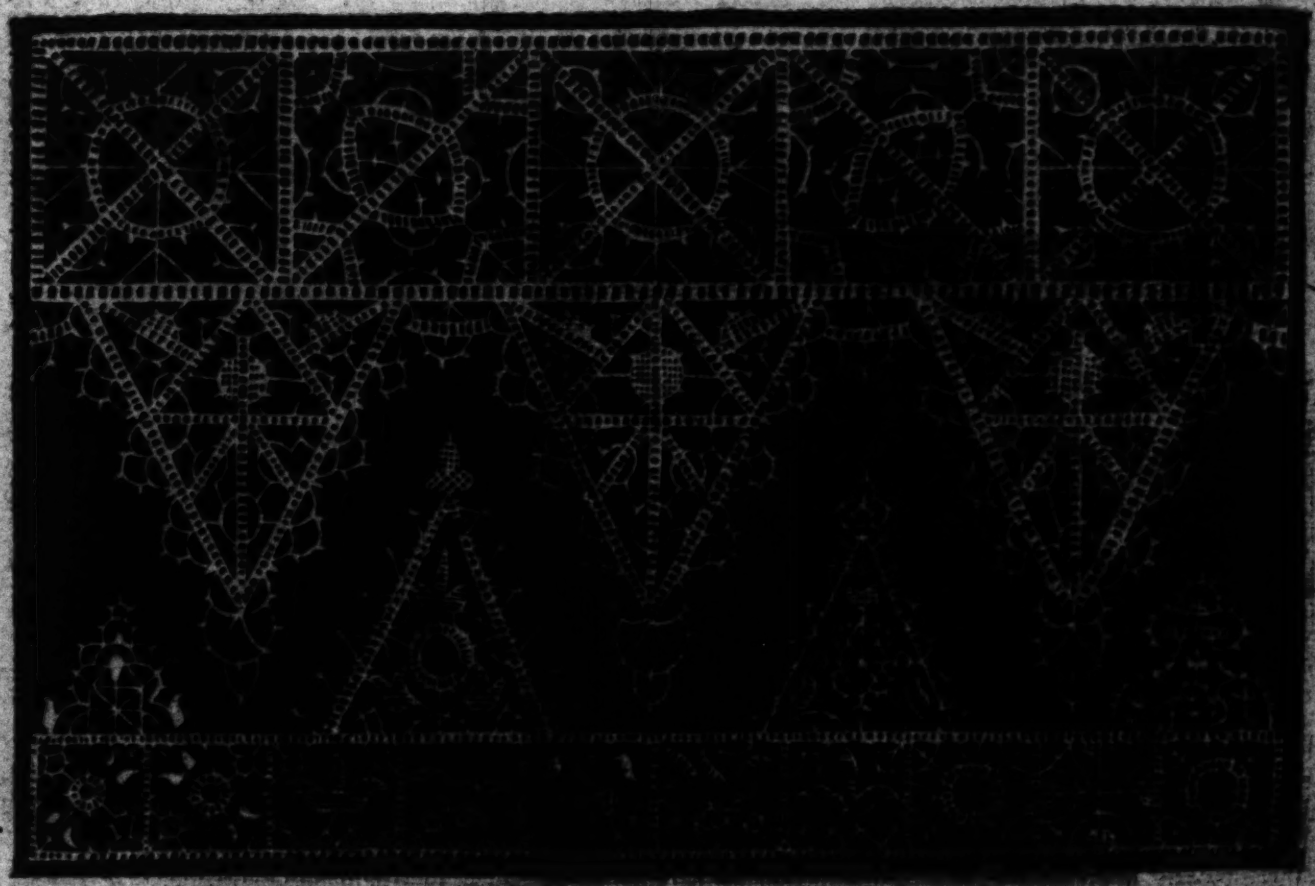

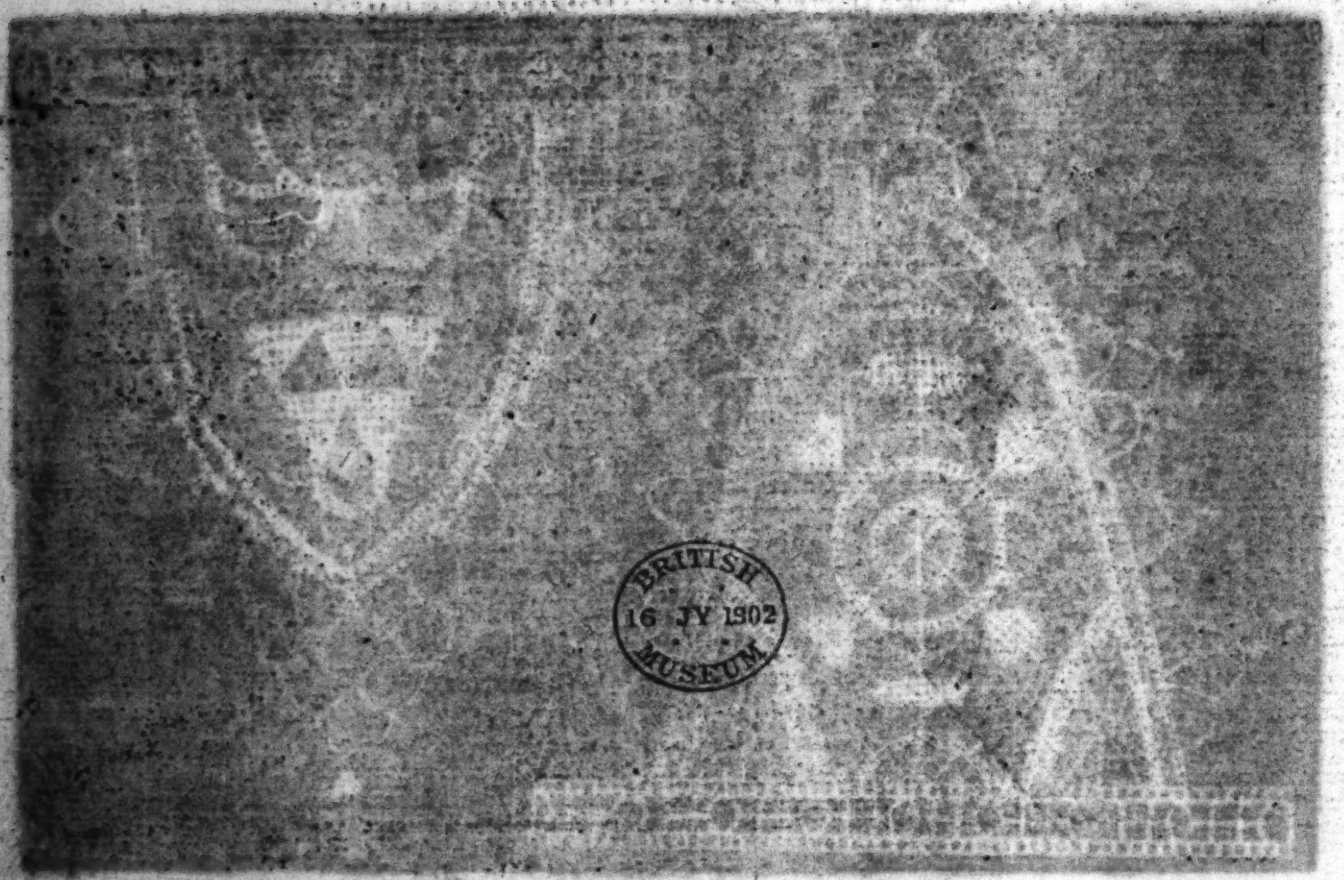
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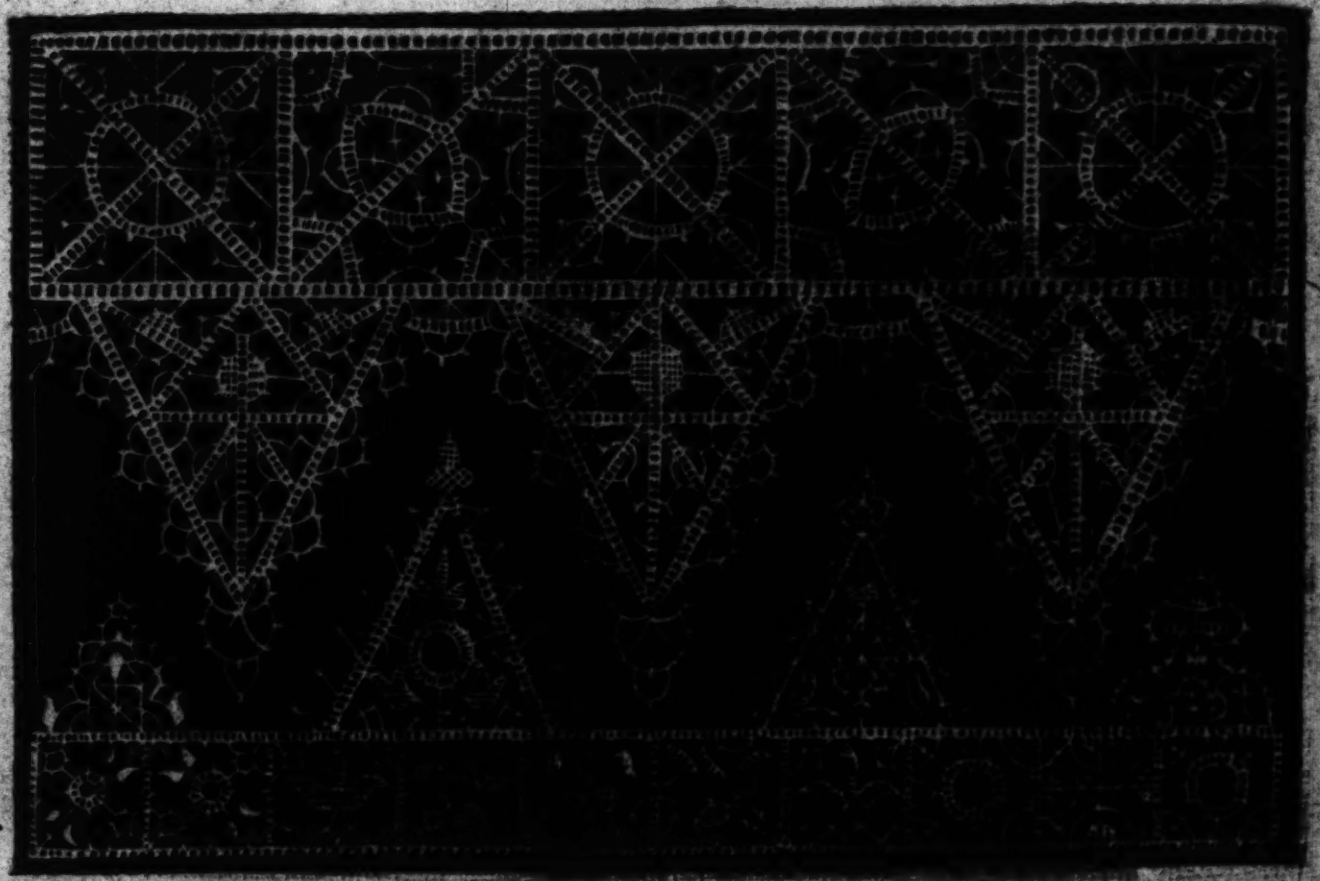

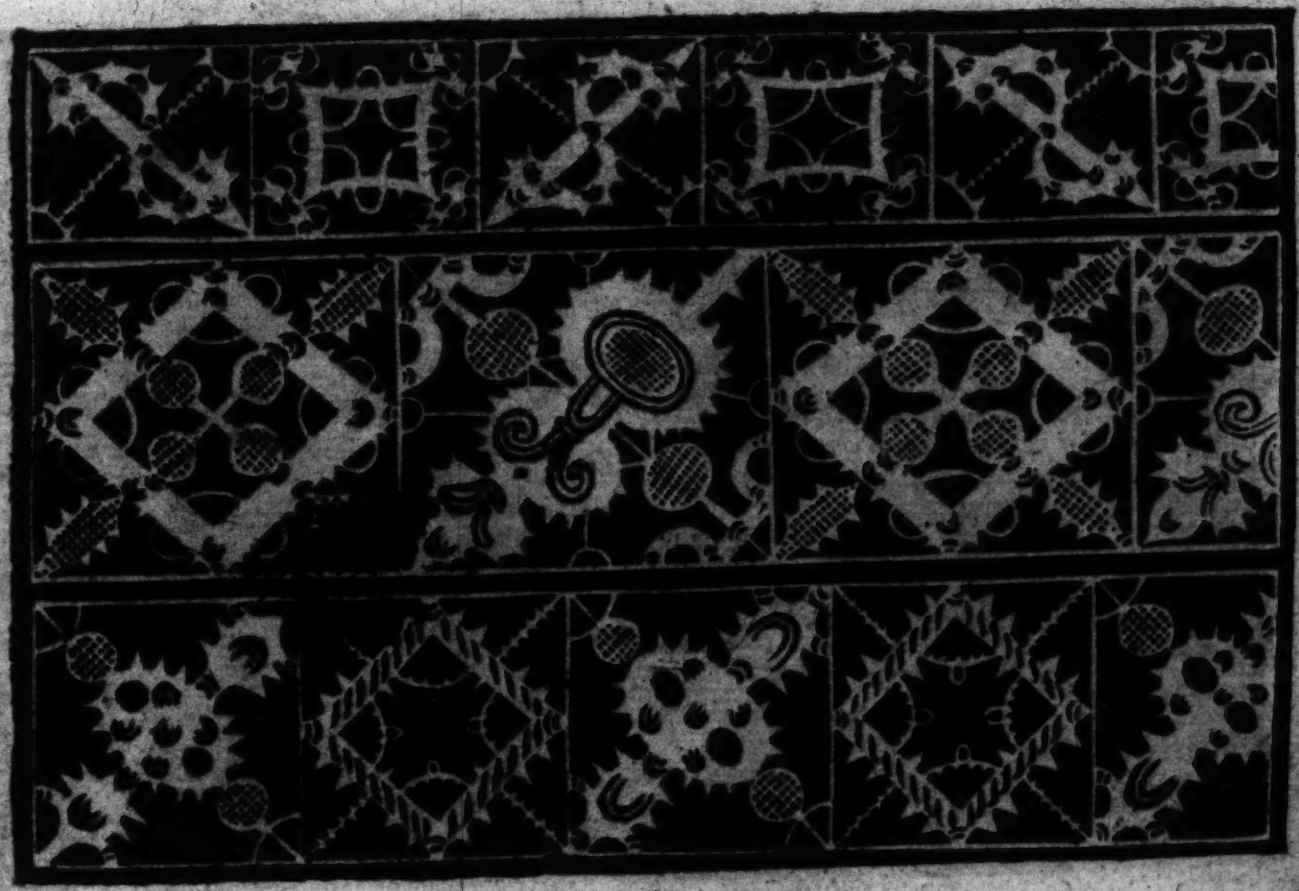

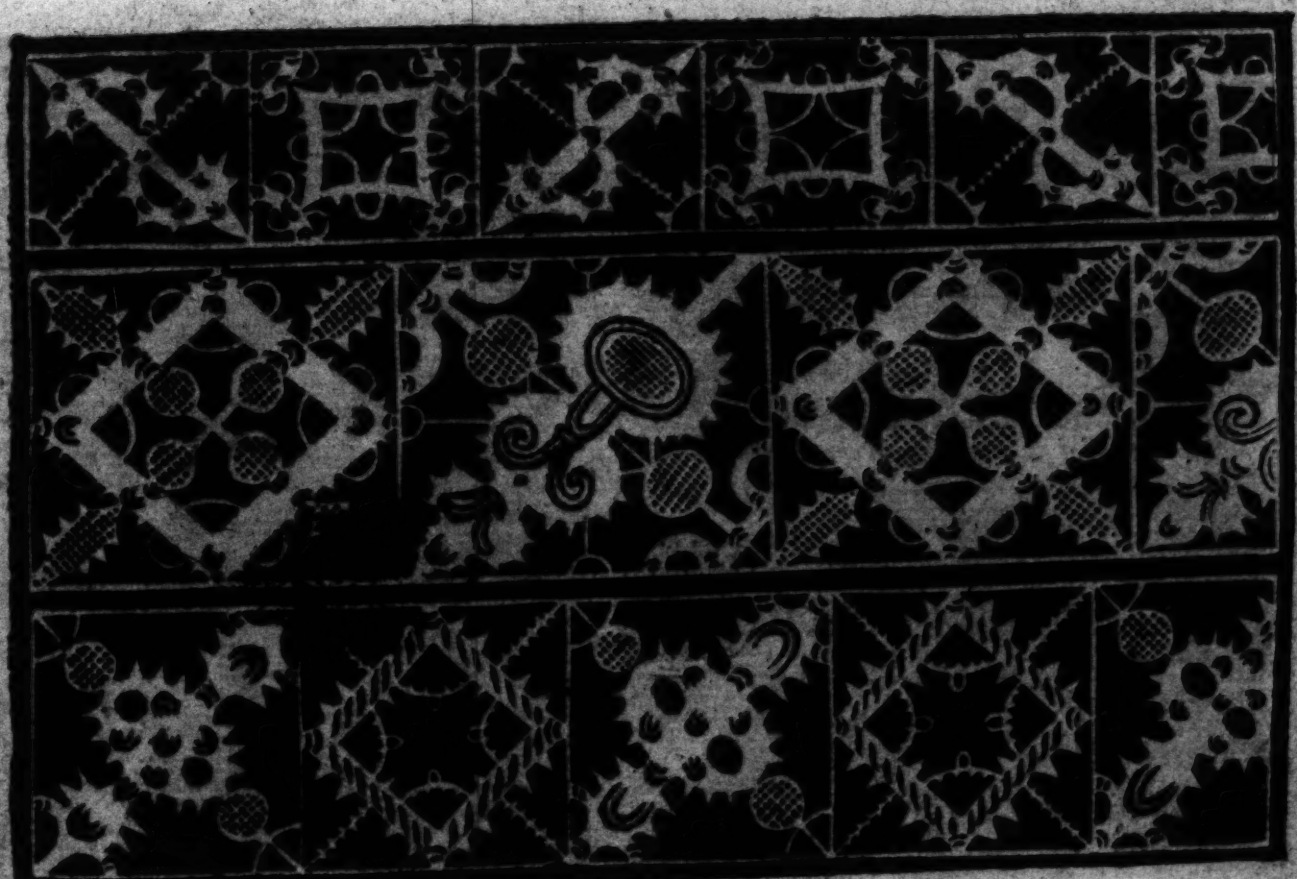

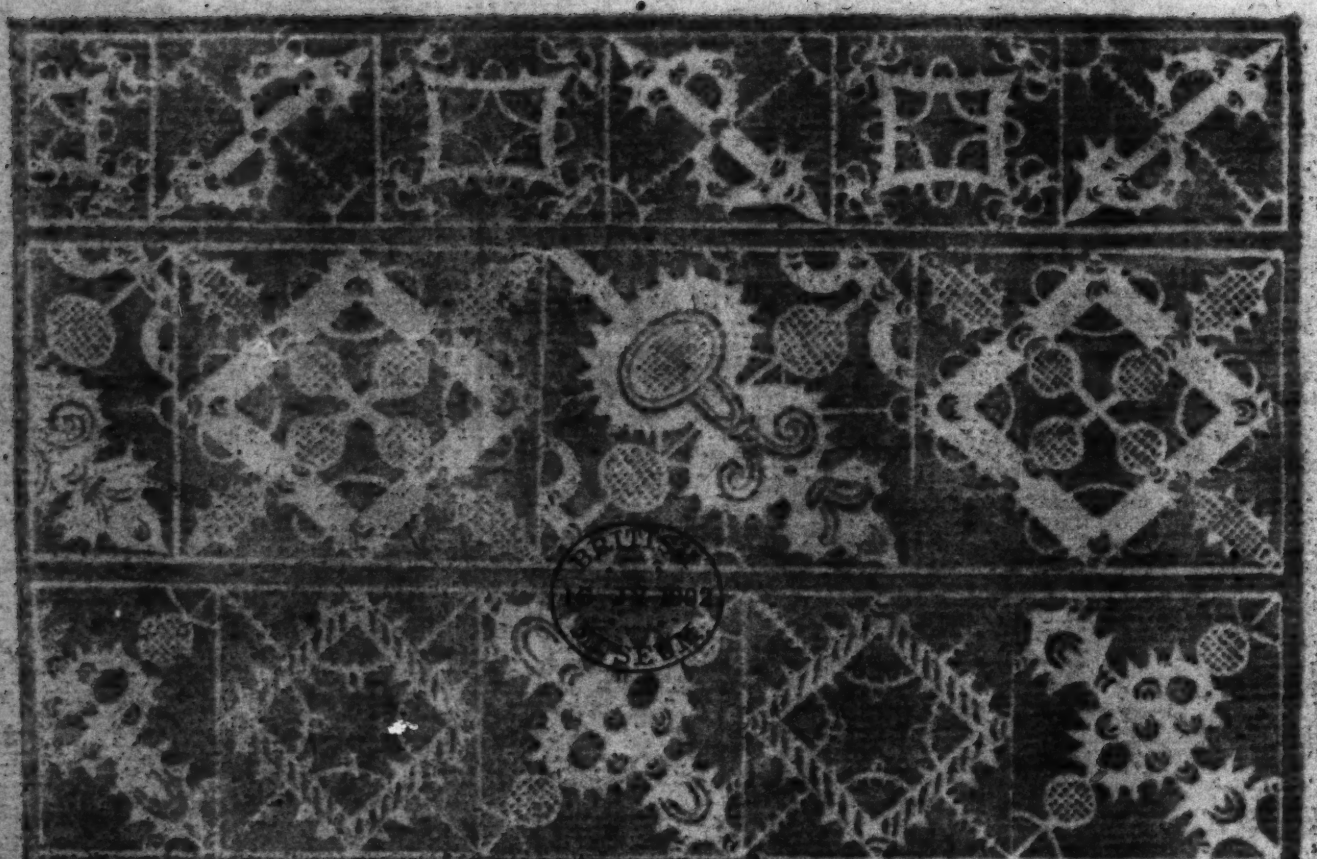

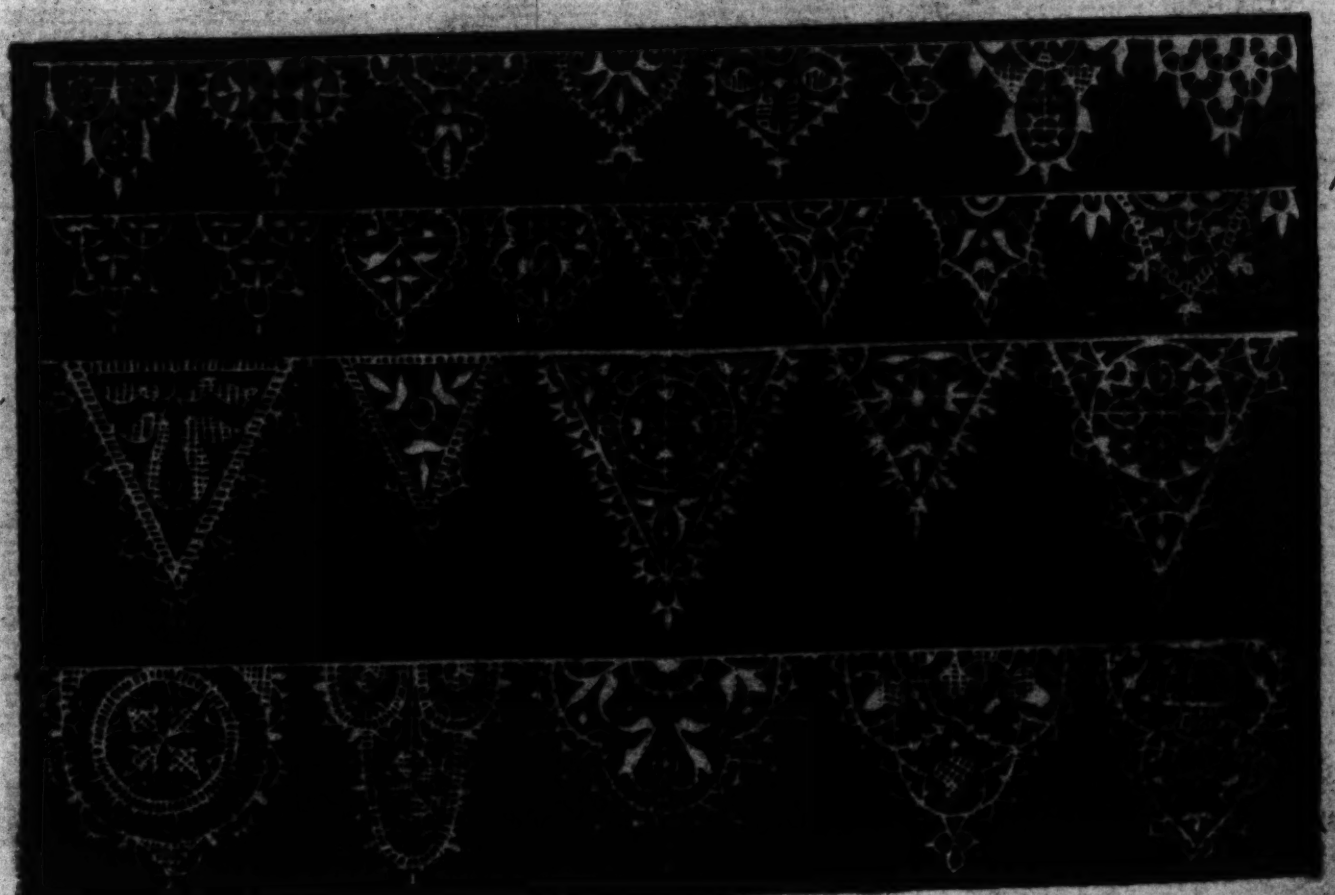

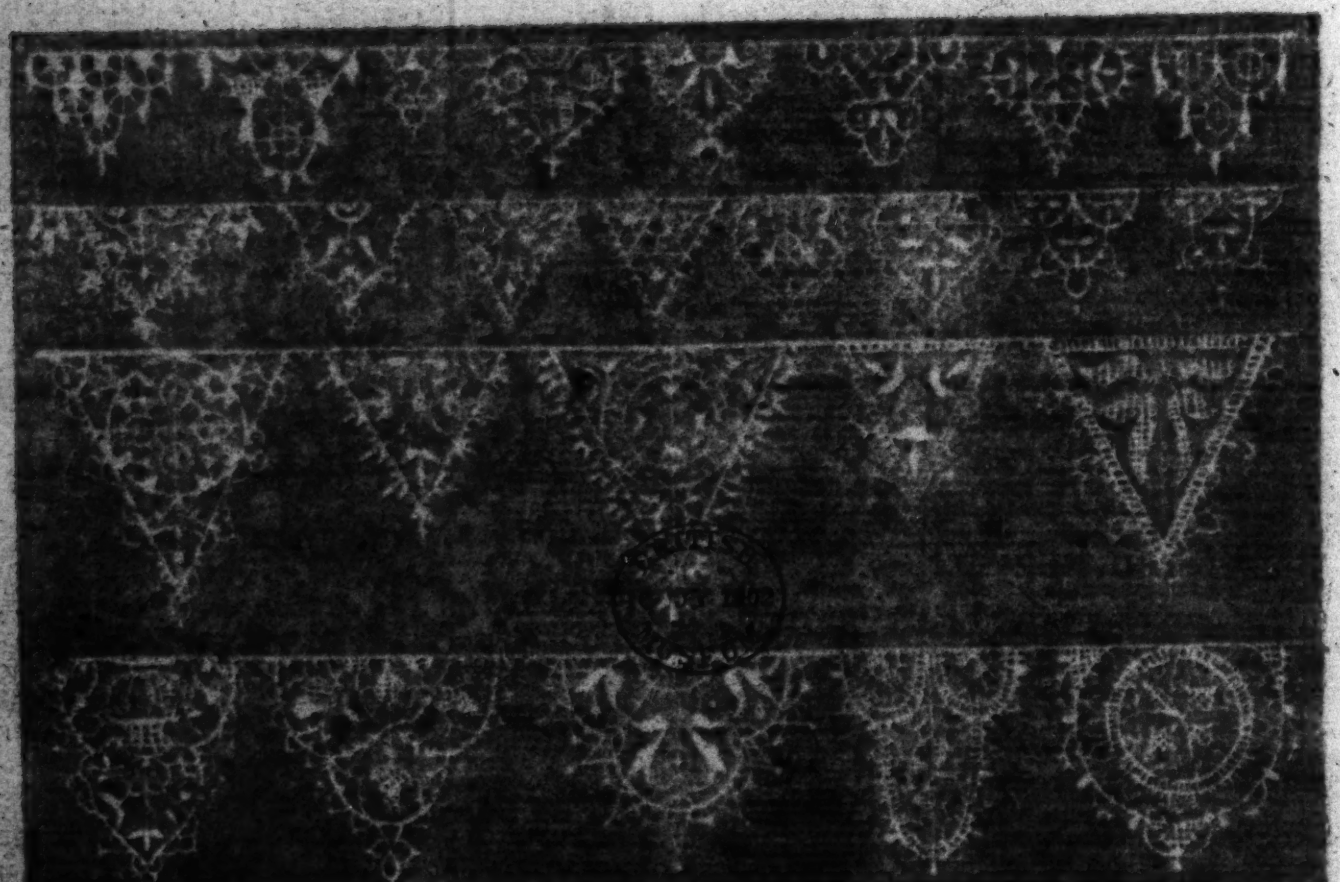

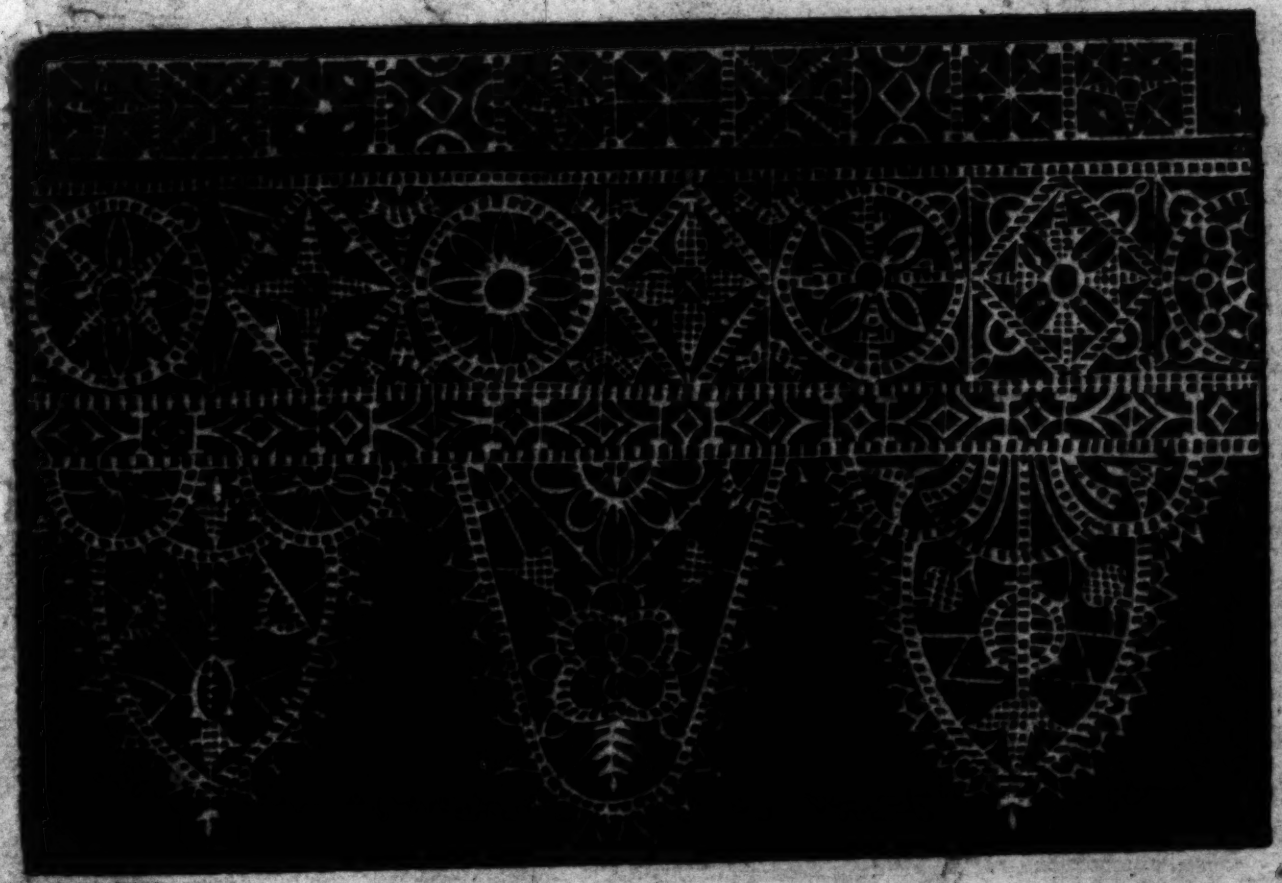

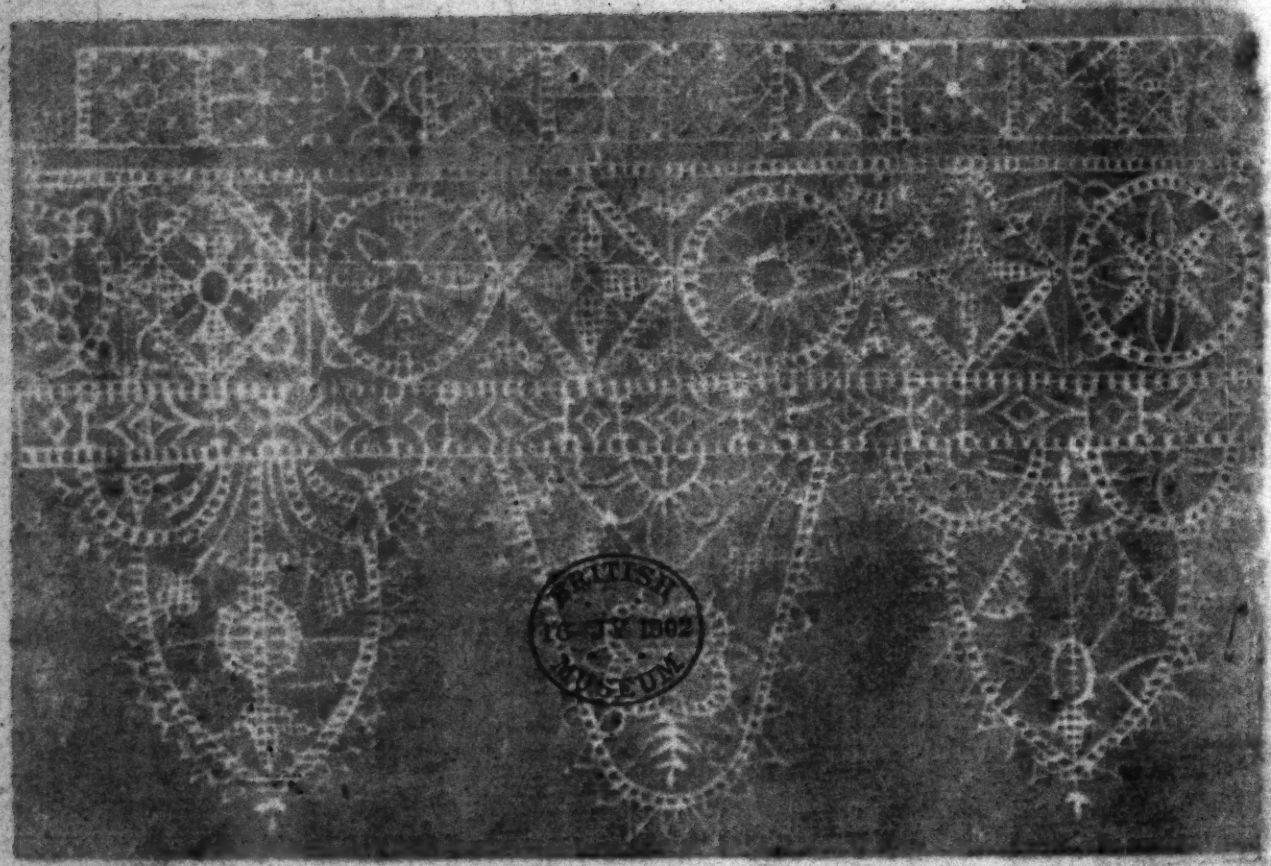
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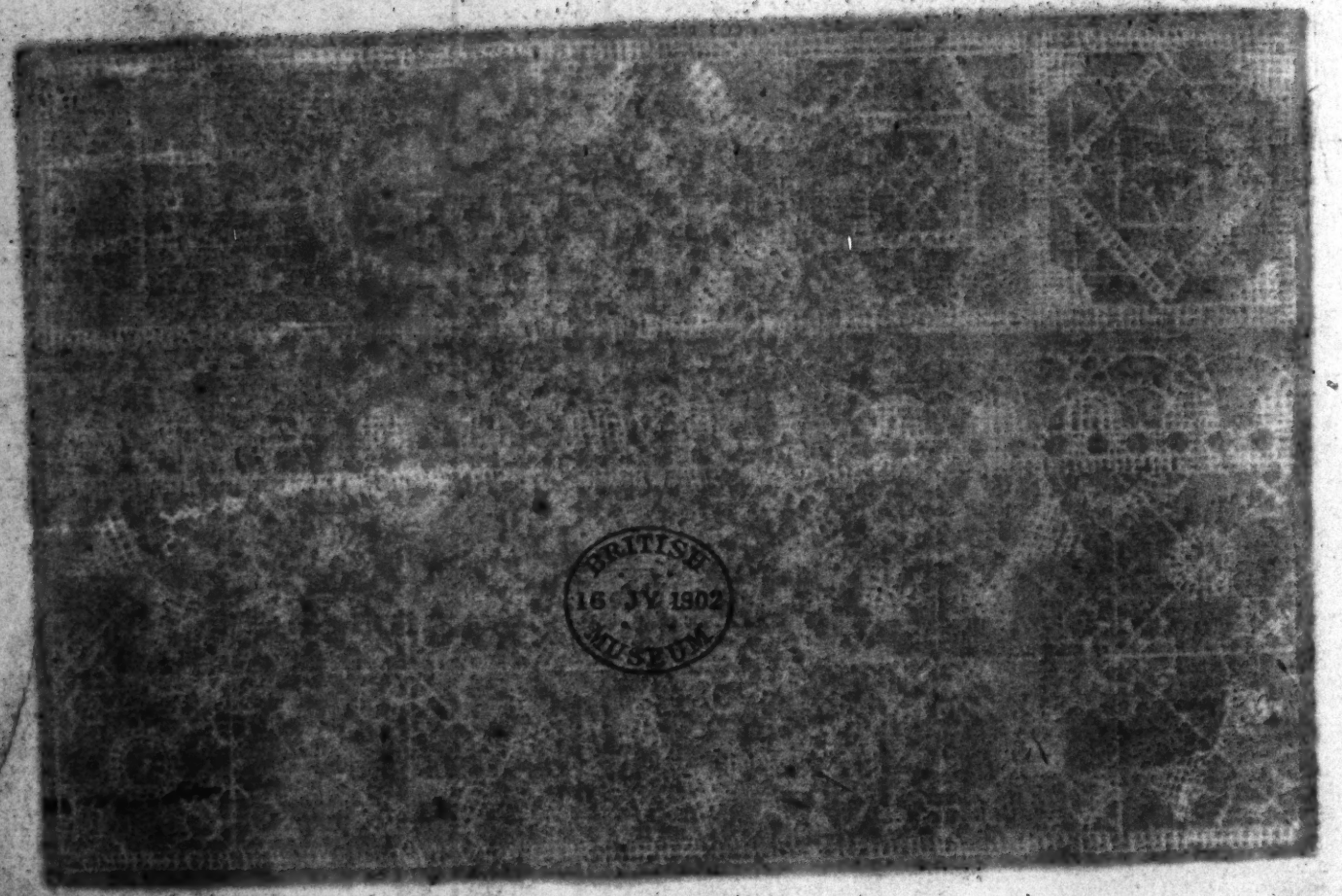
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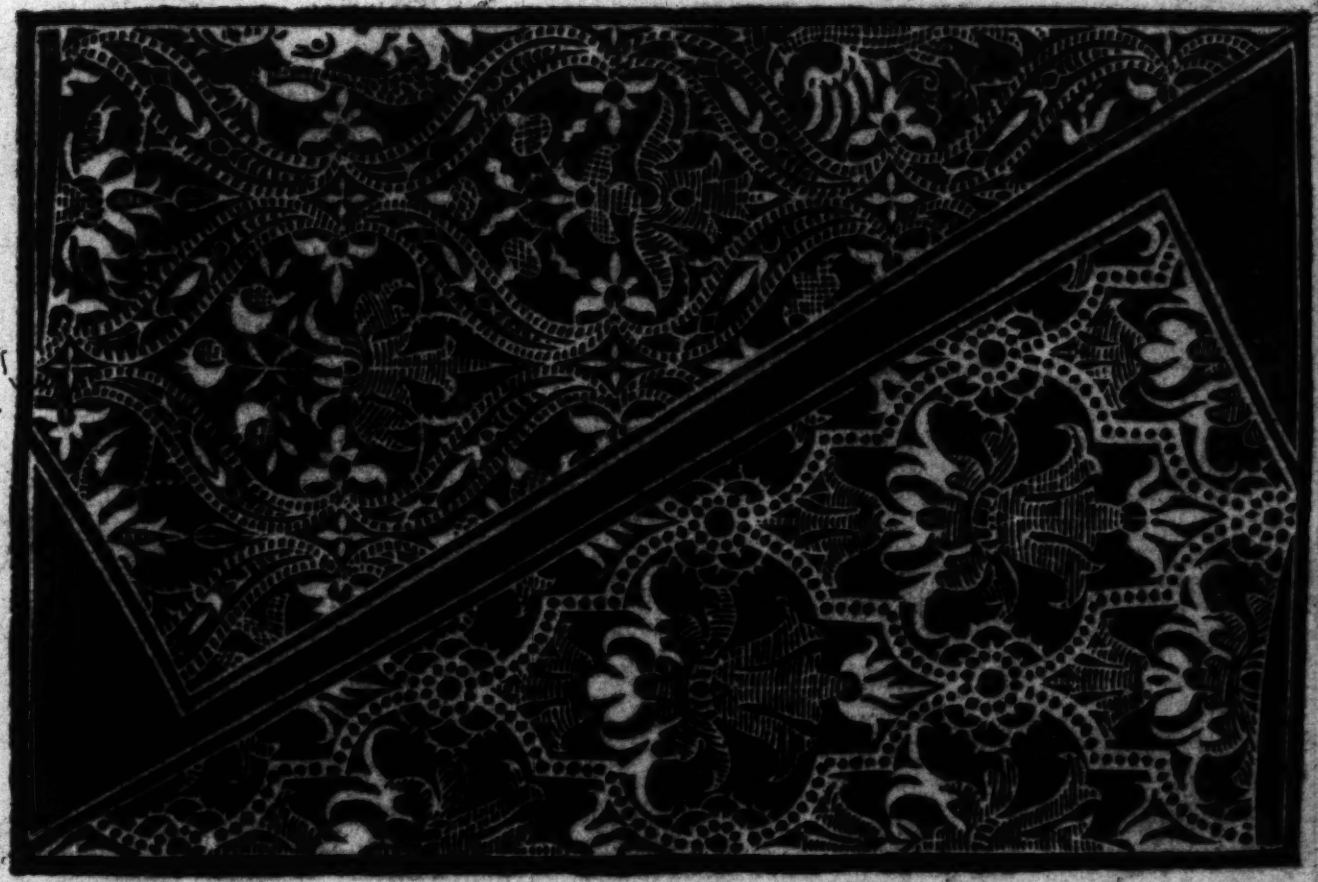

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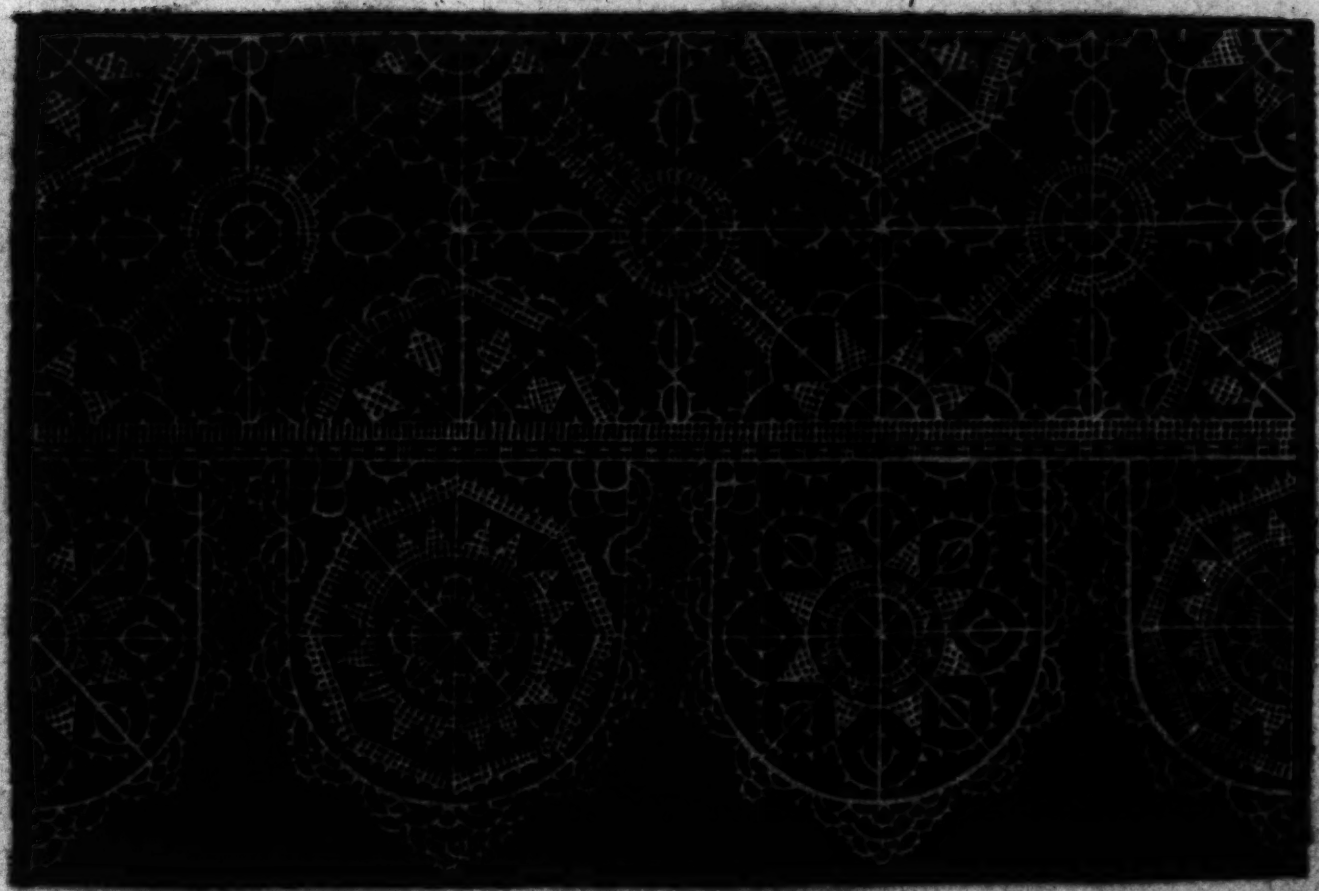

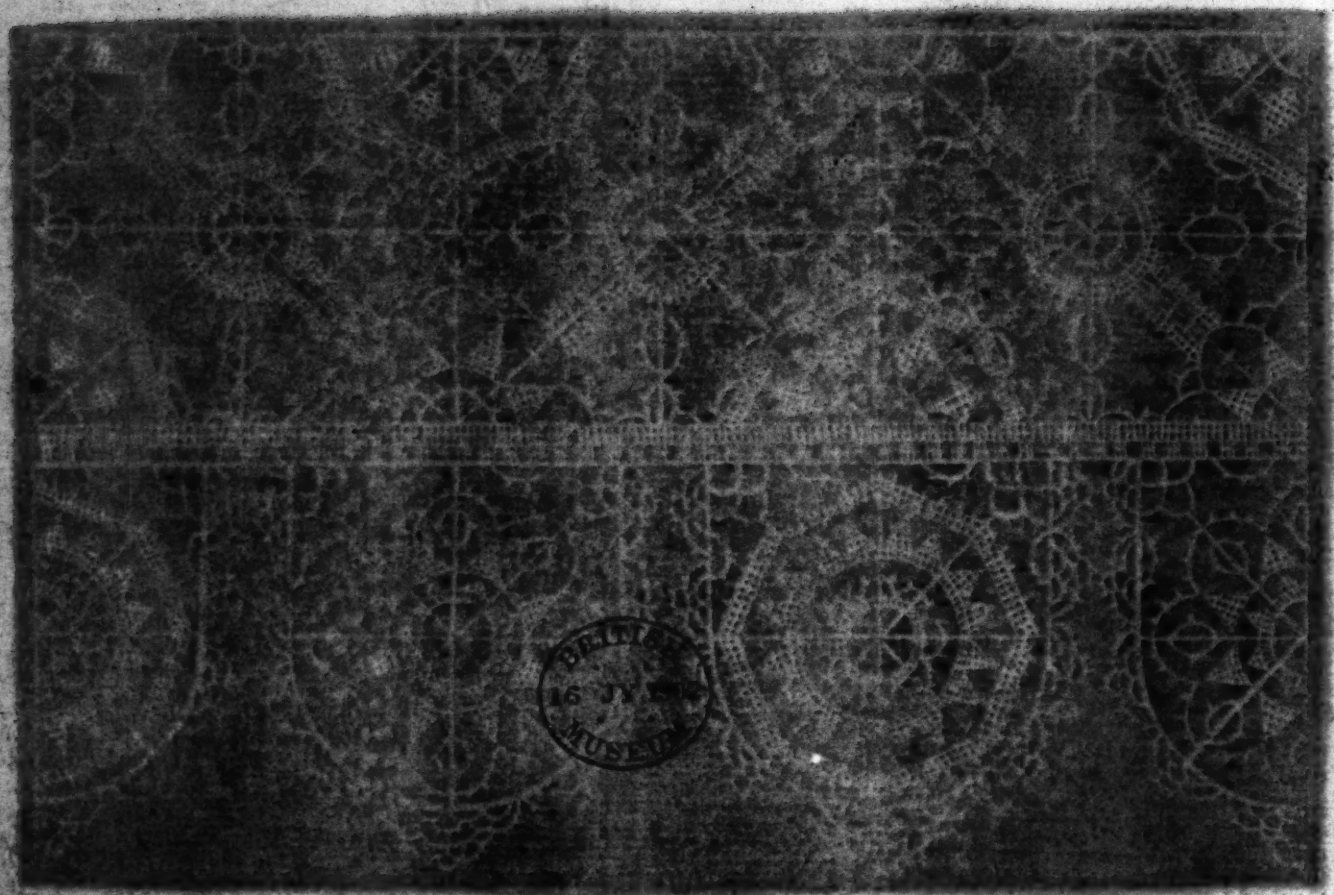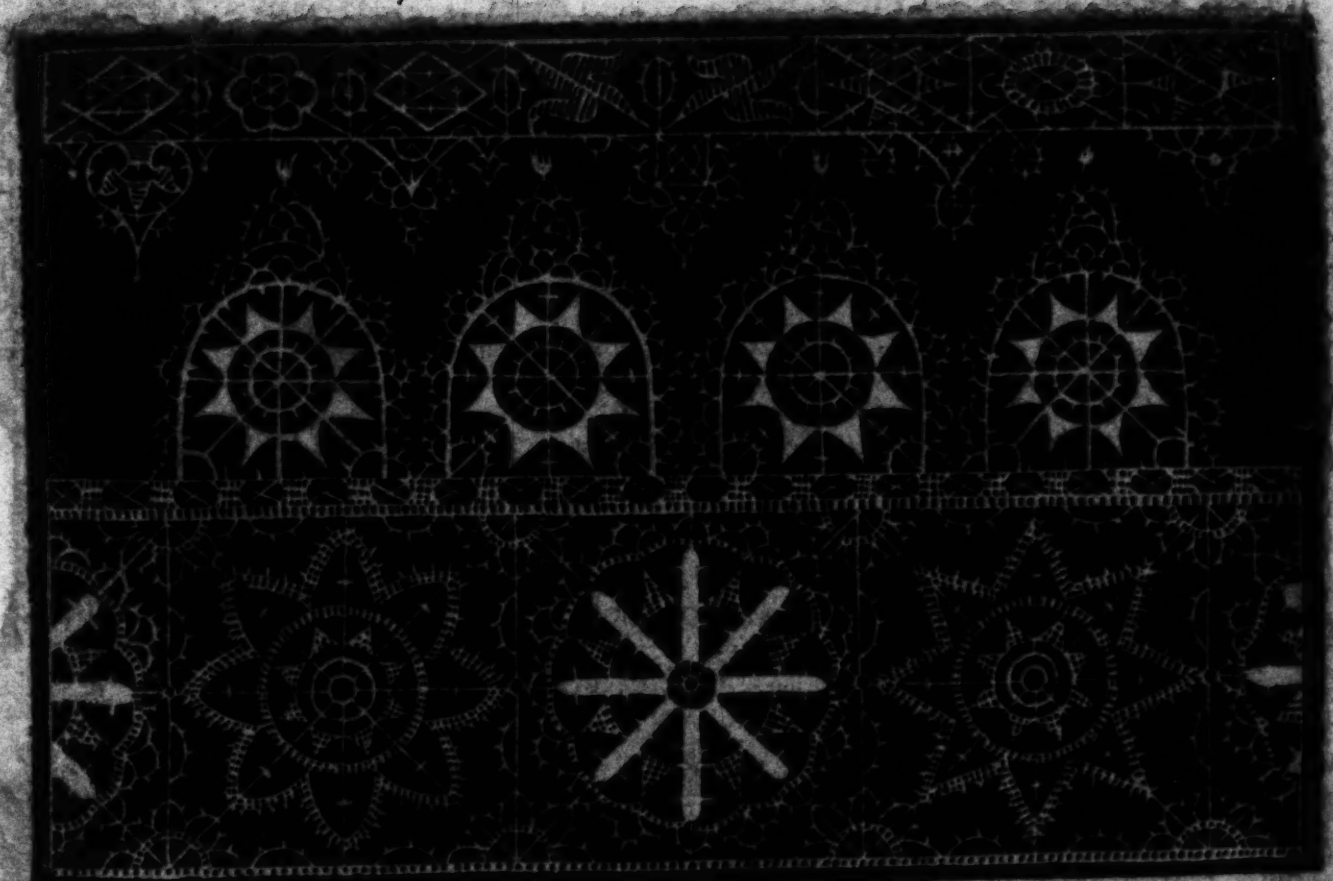
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